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U. S. Department of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
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Dear Ms. Hanlon:

I understand from the American Nuclear Society (ANS) that DOE has solicited input concerning Yucca Mountain. This message provides my personal opinion, based on 26 years working in the nuclear industry (first for Babcock & Wilcox and then for Framatome).

Non-technical friends and neighbors are always asking, "What are we going to do about nuclear waste?" I tell them it is a political problem, not a technical one. The evidence cited by ANS makes me even more confident of that answer.

I encourage DOE to complete qualification of Yucca Mountain as a high-level waste repository and to get on with receiving spent fuel from commercial nuclear plants. I fear that failure to do so could mean decades more of study and indecision. One consequence will be continued erosion of public confidence in this important contributor to US electric generating capacity.

Sincerely,



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